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2007-05820/

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
2007FOR0028-000231
March 8, 2007

Ministry of Forests and Range
Chief Forester's Office

TREE FARM LICENCE 55 HARVEST LEVEL UNCHANGED

VICTORIA – The allowable annual cut for Tree Farm Licence 55 in the Selkirk Mountains north of Revelstoke will remain unchanged, deputy chief forester Henry Benskin announced today.

The allowable annual cut for Tree Farm Licence 55, managed by Louisiana-Pacific Canada Ltd., is 90,000 cubic metres. The harvest level reflects management for environmental values as specified by the Revelstoke Higher Level Plan Order. This includes wildlife habitat for mountain caribou and grizzly bears.

Less than one-quarter of the 92,700-hectare tree farm licence is available for timber harvesting.

"After careful consideration, the best sustainable harvest for Tree Farm Licence 55 is to maintain the current allowable annual cut of 90,000 cubic metres," Benskin said. "I will continue to monitor caribou recovery planning decisions."

Under the timber supply review, the chief forester or deputy chief forester must determine how much wood can be harvested in each of the province's 37 timber supply areas and 33 tree farm licences at least once every five years. A new allowable annual cut can be determined earlier in response to unique situations such as the management of mountain caribou having an impact on the harvesting land base.

Each allowable annual cut determination is an independent, professional judgment based on the latest information ranging from technical forestry reports and public input, to government's social and economic objectives and consultation with the public and First Nations.

Tree farm licences are area-based tenures and renewable licences issued under the Forest Act, and give the licensee rights to manage Crown timber for sustained yield for 25 years. The licensee manages the area under the general supervision of the Ministry of Forests and Range and receives approval from the ministry for harvesting activities.

A copy of the deputy chief forester's allowable annual cut rationale for Tree Farm Licence 55 is available at www.for.gov.bc.ca/hts/tfls.htm on the Ministry of Forests and Range website.

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